

2006 Virginia Outdoors Survey

The 2006 Virginia Outdoors Survey was a cooperative project between the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia Commonwealth University. The survey combines information about individual outdoor recreation activities, state park usage preferences and opinions on natural resources and conservation. Information about the various specific activities is included in the program areas of this 2007 VOP.

The purpose of this survey is to measure the public demand for outdoor recreation areas and facilities generated in Virginia each year. In addition to addressing standard questions pertaining to participation in different types of outdoor recreational activities, the survey also asked, for each activity, how many household members participated, how many times in past year, how much time it took to reach the place where they participated, whether they participated in Virginia or left the state, and whether participation usually occurred at a publicly or privately owned facility. The activity list from which respondents could choose was also expanded in order to develop more comprehensive data on the types of outdoor recreational activities and resources enjoyed by Virginians.

Because of the amount of information covered, the 2006 Virginia Outdoors Survey was a mailed questionnaire. To ensure accuracy of results at both the state and regional level, Virginia was divided into four regions for sampling purposes: the Chesapeake region (Planning Districts 17, 18 and 22), the urban corridor (Planning Districts 8, 15, 16, 19 and 23), the Piedmont region (Planning Districts 9 through 14), and the Mountain region (Planning Districts 1 through 7). Addresses were acquired within each region through a random selection process and questionnaires were mailed. If a household failed to return its questionnaire within two weeks, a postcard reminder was sent. Households not responding within a period of a few months were sent reminder letters, as well as additional survey copies. As a result of these efforts, more than 3,400 valid responses were received. To help ensure validity of the data, the responses were weighted according to 2000 Census data to correspond with population characteristics such as race, income, education, sex, and property ownership for each region. Survey estimates are 95% certain to be within $\pm 2.0\%$ confidence interval of the actual attitudes of the population at the statewide level. This high level of confidence makes the data an excellent source of information regarding Virginians' preferences and attitudes about outdoor recreation and open space resources. Results and trends from the survey are summarized in Chapter II of the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan.

Virginia Outdoors Survey		STATEWIDE - RESULTS
Q1. How important is it to you and any other persons living in your household to have access to outdoor recreation opportunities?	Not Important Important Very Important	8.10% 41.50% 50.40%
Q2. In general, when do you and others in your household most often participate in outdoor recreation activities?	Mostly On Weekends Mostly During The Week Equally, On Weekends And During The Week	66.50% 5.50% 28.00%
Q3. Did you (or anyone else in your household) go DRIVING FOR PLEASURE in the last 12 months?	No Yes	44.40% 55.60%
Q3a. How many total days during the last 12 months did one or more persons from your household go DRIVING FOR PLEASURE?	Days	Mean 16.9 Median 10.0
Q3b. How many persons from your household, including yourself, went on an average day of DRIVING FOR PLEASURE in the last 12 months?		Mean 2.5 Median 2.0
Q3c. Did you and your household members go DRIVING FOR PLEASURE mostly in Virginia?	No Yes	20.70% 79.30%
Q3d. How much driving time was used on an average day of driving for pleasure?	Hours	Mean 3.4 Median 3.0
Q4. Did you (or anyone else in your household) visit any HISTORIC SITES in the last 12 months?	No Yes	43.90% 56.10%
Q4a. How many total days during the last 12 months did one or more persons from your household go to visit HISTORIC SITES?	Days	Mean 5.3 Median 4.0
Q4b. How many persons from your household, including yourself, visited historic sites on an average day?	Persons	Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Q4c. Did you and your household members visit HISTORIC SITES mostly in Virginia during the last 12 months?	No Yes	20.20% 79.80%
Q4d. Did you and your household members visit HISTORIC SITES at mostly public or mostly privately owned places during the last 12 months?	Public Private Don't Know	84.00% 5.00% 11.00%
Q4e. How much time was needed most often to get from your home to where you and your household members visited HISTORIC SITES?	Hours	Mean 2.0 Median 2.0
Q5. Did you (or anyone else in your household) go SWIMMING away from home in the last 12 months?	No Yes	56.00% 44.00%

Q5a. How many total days in the last 12 months did one or more persons from your household go SWIMMING away from home?	Days	Mean 17.5 Median 10.0
Q5b. How many persons from your household, including yourself, went swimming on an average day of SWIMMING in the last 12 months?	Persons	Mean 2.6 Median 2.0
Q5c. Did you and your household members go SWIMMING mostly in Virginia in the last 12?	No Yes	25.90% 74.10%
Q5d. Where did the SWIMMING by you and your household members occur in the last 12 months?	Outdoor Pool Indoor Pool Lake River Chesapeake Bay (Or Other Tidal Bays) Other Place	61.00% 40.20% 22.30% 18.20% 18.10% 34.70%
Q5e. Did you and your household members go SWIMMING at mostly public or mostly privately owned places in the last 12 months?	Public Private Don't Know	62.00% 34.80% 3.20%
Q5f. How much time was needed to get from home to where you and your household members went swimming most often in the last 12 months?	Hours	Mean 1.6 Median 0.5
Q6. Did you (or anyone else in your household) visit any NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES, OR REFUGES in the last 12 months?	No Yes	55.70% 44.30%
Q6a. How many total days during the last 12 months did one or more persons from your household go visiting NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES, OR REFUGES?	Days	Mean 8.0 Median 4.0
Q6b. How many persons from your household, including yourself, went visiting NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES, OR REFUGES on an average day?	Persons	Mean 2.4 Median 2.0
Q6c. Did you and your household members go visiting NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES, OR REFUGES mostly in Virginia during the last 12 months?	No Yes	19.20% 80.80%
Q6d. Did you and your household members go visiting NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES, OR REFUGES at mostly public or mostly privately owned places during the last 12 months?	Public Private Don't Know	88.10% 4.50% 7.40%

Q6e. How much time was needed most often to get from home to where you and your household members visited NATURAL AREAS, PRESERVES OR REFUGES?	Hours	Mean 2.1 Median 1.5
Q7. Did you or anyone else in your household go camping in the past 12 months?	No Yes	82.30% 17.70%
Q7a. How many total days during the past 12 months did one or more persons from your household go CAMPING?	Days	Mean 7.0 Median 5.0
Q7b. How many persons from your household, including yourself, went on an average CAMPING trip in the past 12 months?	Persons	Mean 2.6 Median 2.0
Q7c. Did you and your household members CAMP mostly in Virginia in the past 12 months?	No Yes	18.30% 81.70%
Q7d. Did you and your household members CAMP at mostly public or mostly privately owned places in the past 12 months?	Public Federal State Local Don't Know Private Don't Know	63.80% 25.00% 55.10% 10.80% 9.10% 31.70% 4.50%
Q7e. How much time was needed to get from home to where you and your household members went camping most often?	Hours	Mean 2.4 Median 2.0
Q7f. What type of camping equipment did you and your household members use most often in the past year?	Tent Pop-up Tent Trailer Travel Trailer Motor Home/Recreational Vehicle Other	70.80% 4.60% 8.70% 8.60% 7.30%
Q7g. Which kind of campsite do you and members of your household generally prefer?	Backpacking Walk-in Sites Drive-in Camp Ground	23.60% 76.40%
Q7h. A. HOW IMPORTANT are each of the following amenities to you and your family members, when camping at a drive-in campground? B. DO you think AMENITY SHOULD BE PROVIDED at public campgrounds in Virginia such as state parks.		

Q7h.1. Sewer Hookups	A. Not Important Important Very Important B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	46.50% 22.10% 31.30% 23.40% 76.60%
Q7h.2. Electrical Hookups	A. Not Important Important Very Important B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	29.20% 30.60% 40.20% 17.20% 82.80%
Q7h.3. Flush Toilets	A. Not Important Important Very Important B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	12.30% 31.10% 56.60% 6.80% 93.20%
Q7h.4. Showers	A. Not Important Important Very Important B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	11.10% 33.10% 55.80% 8.30% 91.70%

Q7h.5. Paved Roads	A. Not Important Important Very Important	49.60% 34.70% 15.70%
	B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	50.10% 49.90%
Q7h.6. Grocery Store	A. Not Important Important Very Important	45.40% 40.30% 14.40%
	B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	53.00% 47.00%
Q7h.7. Restaurant	A. Not Important Important Very Important	75.80% 17.10% 8.30%
	B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	77.30% 22.70%
Q7h.7. Other (Please Specify)	A. Not Important Important Very Important	42.70% 32.20% 25.10%
	B. Should Not Be Provided Should Be Provided	49.50% 50.50%
Q7i. When you go camping, do you prefer to camp in a publicly owned campground, in a privately owned campground, or in both?	A. Publicly Owned Campgrounds B. Privately Owned Campgrounds C. Both Public And Privately Owned	39.40% 5.70% 54.90%
Q8. (Other) Activities participated in during the last 12 months:		
Walking for Pleasure	No Yes	28.30% 71.70%
# Of Days?		Mean 85.6 Median 40.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.9 Median 2.0

Walk MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	10.80% 89.20%
Walk in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	86.30% 8.50% 5.20%
# Of hours to get from home to where Walking for Pleasure took place MOST?		Mean 0.6 Median 0.25
Jogging/ Running	No Yes	75.90% 24.10%
# Of Days?		Mean 83.3 Median 50.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Jog/ Run MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	11.00% 89.00%
Jog/ Run in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	86.30% 8.80% 4.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Jogging/ Running took place MOST?		Mean 0.3 Median 0.0
Hiking/ Backpacking	No Yes	84.00% 16.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 11.6 Median 6.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.4 Median 2.0
Hike/ Backpack MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	21.10% 80.90%
Hike/ Backpack in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	91.00% 3.60% 5.40%
# Of hours to get from home to where Hiking / Backpacking took place MOST?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0

Fitness Trail (Not Jogging)	No Yes	89.20% 10.80%
# Of Days?		Mean 39.3 Median 15.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Use Fitness Trail MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	12.80% 87.20%
Use Fitness Trail in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	93.10% 4.00% 2.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Fitness Trail use took place MOST?		Mean 0.7 Median 0.5
Horseback Riding	No Yes	94.20% 5.80%
# Of Days?		Mean 24.0 Median 5.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.2 Median 2.0
Horseback Riding MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	20.10% 79.90%
Horseback Riding in PUBLIC or PRIVATE?	Public Private Don't Know	26.20% 69.30% 4.50%
# Of hours to get from home to where Horseback Riding took place MOST?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Using a playground	No Yes	75.00% 25.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 38.6 Median 20.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.8 Median 2.0
Used a Playground MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	10.30% 89.70%

Used a Playground in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	92.00% 5.70% 2.20%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playground use took place MOST?		Mean 0.6 Median 0.25
Playing Softball	No Yes	92.50% 7.50%
# Of Days?		Mean 23.0 Median 20.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.7 Median 1.0
Played Softball MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	11.10% 88.90%
Played Softball in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	87.90% 8.00% 4.10%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Softball took place MOST?		Mean 0.61 Median 0.5
Playing Baseball	No Yes	94.50% 5.50%
# Of Days?		Mean 28.5 Median 25.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Played Baseball MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	17.70% 82.30%
Played Baseball in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	88.40% 8.20% 3.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Baseball took place MOST?		Mean 0.5 Median 0.25

Playing Soccer	No Yes	90.80% 9.20%
# Of Days?		Mean 29.9 Median 24.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.1 Median 1.0
Played Soccer MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	15.10% 84.90%
Played Soccer in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	82.10% 14.00% 3.90%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Soccer took place MOST?		Mean 0.6 Median 0.25
Playing Basketball	No Yes	87.50% 12.50%
# Of Days?		Mean 29.7 Median 20.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.0 Median 2.0
Played Basketball MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	10.60% 89.40%
Played Basketball in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	75.20% 23.90% 0.90%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Basketball took place MOST?		Mean 0.5 Median 0.25
Playing Football	No Yes	94.20% 5.80%
# Of Days?		Mean 30.3 Median 20.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.4 Median 1.0
Played Football MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	27.20% 72.80%

Played in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	73.00% 23.40% 3.60%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Football took place MOST?		Mean 0.5 Median 0.25
Playing Volleyball	No Yes	96.60% 3.40%
# Of Days?		Mean 26.6 Median 20.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.7 Median 2.0
Played Volleyball MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	15.40% 84.60%
Played Volleyball in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	63.00% 32.30% 4.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Playing Volleyball took place MOST?		Mean 0.56 Median 0.25
Playing Tennis	No Yes	91.40% 8.60%
# Of Days?		Mean 21.6 Median 14.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.0 Median 2.0
Played Tennis MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	20.20% 79.80%
Played Tennis in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	64.00% 33.70% 2.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Tennis took place MOST?		Mean 0.53 Median 0.25

Playing Golf	No Yes	85.40% 14.60%
# Of Days?		Mean 23.2 Median 15.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.5 Median 1.0
Played Golf MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	16.50% 83.40%
Played Golf in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	63.20% 32.50% 4.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Golf took place MOST?		Mean 0.81 Median 0.5
Fresh Water Fishing	No Yes	80.10% 19.90%
# Of Days?		Mean 14.9 Median 10.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.2 Median 2.0
Did Fresh Water Fishing MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	19.80% 80.20%
Fresh Water Fishing in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	79.70% 16.90% 3.40%
# Of hours to get from home to where Fresh Water Fishing took place MOST?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Salt Water Fishing	No Yes	84.60% 15.40%
# Of Days?		Mean 13.3 Median 7.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Salt Water Fishing MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	31.50% 68.50%

Salt Water Fishing in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	86.50% 11.00% 2.50%
# Of hours to get from home to where Salt Water Fishing took place MOST?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Hunting	No Yes	92.40% 7.60%
# Of Days?		Mean 21.2 Median 14.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.0 Median 1.0
Hunting MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	21.70% 78.30%
Hunting in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	33.10% 65.60% 1.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Hunting took place MOST?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Picnicking Away From Home	No Yes	73.90% 26.10%
# Of Days?		Mean 6.7 Median 5.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 3.3 Median 2.0
Picnicking MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	19.30% 80.70%
Picnicking in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	90.70% 5.40% 4.00%
# Of hours to get from home to where Hunting took place MOST?		Mean 1.3 Median 1.0
Nature Study/Nature Programs	No Yes	93.00% 7.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 7.5 Median 4.0

# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Nature study/programs MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	25.10% 74.90%
Nature study/programs in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	85.80% 12.00% 2.20%
# Of hours to get from home to where Nature Study/Programs took place MOST?		Mean 1.4 Median 1.0
Snow Skiing/Snow Boarding	No Yes	90.90% 9.10%
# Of Days?		Mean 5.1 Median 3.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.5 Median 2.0
Snow skiing/Snow Boarding MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	62.50% 37.50%
Snow Skiing/Snow Boarding in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	41.80% 55.40% 2.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Snow Skiing/Snow Boarding took place MOST?		Mean 3.8 Median 3.0
Off-Road/Mountain Bicycling	No Yes	95.00% 5.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 12.2 Median 7.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Off-Road/Mountain Bicycling MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	20.10% 79.90%
Off-Road/Mountain Bicycling in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	94.60% 4.70% 0.70%
# Of hours to get from home to where Off-Road/Mountain Bicycling took place MOST?		Mean 1.2 Median 0.5

Other Bicycling	No Yes	80.80% 19.20%
# Of Days?		Mean 22.0 Median 12.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.1 Median 2.0
Other Bicycling MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	19.60% 80.40%
Other Bicycling in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	89.70% 6.40% 3.90%
# of hours to get from home to where OHER BICYCLING took place MOST?		Mean 0.65 Median 0.25
Sunbathing/ Relaxing on a beach	No Yes	63.60% 36.40%
# Of Days?		Mean 13.6 Median 8.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.8 Median 2.0
Sunbathed MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	48.30% 51.70%
Sunbathed in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	82.90% 14.70% 2.40%
# Of hours to get from home to where Sunbathing took place MOST?		Mean 2.8 Median 2.0
Jet-Ski/ Personal Watercraft	No Yes	95.90% 4.10%
# Of Days?		Mean 8.2 Median 5.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.7 Median 2.0
Jet Skied MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	44.00% 56.00%

Jet Skied in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	64.80% 31.40% 3.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Jet Skiing took place MOST?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Power Boating	No Yes	91.60% 8.40%
# Of Days?		Mean 18.2 Median 10.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.8 Median 2.0
Power Boating MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	32.90% 67.10%
Power Boating in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	75.20% 19.50% 5.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Power Boating took place MOST?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Sailing/Sail Boarding	No Yes	96.50% 3.50%
# Of Days?		Mean 17.1 Median 5.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.1 Median 2.0
Sailing/Sail Boarding MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	45.10% 54.90%
Sailing/Sail Boarding in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	73.70% 21.70% 4.60%
# Of hours to get from home to where Sailing/Sail Boarding took place MOST?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Canoeing/Kayaking/Rowing	No Yes	90.70% 9.30%
# Of Days?		Mean 8.4 Median 4.0

# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Canoeing/Kayaking/Rowing MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	31.80% 68.20%
Canoeing/Kayaking/Rowing in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	80.90% 15.40% 3.70%
# Of hours to get from home to where Canoeing/Kayaking/Rowing took place MOST?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Water Skiing or Towed on Water	No Yes	96.00% 4.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 9.8 Median 6.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.9 Median 2.0
Water Skied MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	24.70% 75.30%
Water Skied in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	71.90% 23.30% 4.80%
# Of hours to get from home to where Water Skiing took place MOST?		Mean 1.5 Median 1.0
Rafting	No Yes	98.00% 2.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 3.7 Median 2.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.5 Median 2.0
Raft MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	48.60% 51.40%
Raft in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	79.70% 17.00% 3.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where Rafting took place MOST?		Mean 3.1 Median 3.0

Tubing	No Yes	95.10% 4.90%
# Of Days?		Mean 7.0 Median 2.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 3.0 Median 2.0
Tubing MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	23.60% 76.40%
Tubing in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	74.40% 20.20% 5.50%
# Of hours to get from home to where Tubing took place MOST?		Mean 1.8 Median 1.0
Skate Boarding	No Yes	96.00% 4.00%
# Of Days?		Mean 27.6 Median 18.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0
Skateboarded MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	22.00% 78.00%
Skateboarded in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	74.10% 21.10% 4.90%
# Of hours to get from home to where Skateboarding took place MOST?		Mean 0.6 Median 0.25
In-Line Skating	No Yes	95.20% 4.80%
# Of Days?		Mean 21.6 Median 14.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.8 Median 2.0
In-Line Skated MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	15.30% 84.70%

In-Line Skated in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	80.50% 19.50% 0.00%
# of hours to get from home to where In-Line Skating took place MOST?		Mean 0.5 Median 0.25
Driving 4-Wheel-Drive Off Road	No Yes	94.30% 5.70%
# Of Days?		Mean 15.4 Median 7.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Drove 4-Wheel-Drive Off Road MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	34.90% 65.10%
Drove 4-Wheel-Drive Off Road in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	55.70% 37.20% 7.00%
# of hours to get from home to Driving 4-Wheel-Drive Off Road took place MOST?		Mean 2.5 Median 2.0
Driving Motorcycle Off Road	No Yes	98.30% 1.70%
# Of Days?		Mean 21.1 Median 10.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Drove Motorcycle Off Road MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	24.40% 75.60%
Drove Motorcycle Off Road in PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	41.10% 48.40% 10.40%
# Of hours to get from home to where Driving Motorcycle Off Road took place MOST?		Mean 1.32 Median 0.5
Visiting Gardens/ Arboretums	No Yes	78.40% 21.60%
# Of Days?		Mean 4.2 Median 3.0

# Of Persons?		Mean 2.3 Median 2.0
Visiting Gardens/ Arboretums MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	34.30% 65.70%
Visit PUBLIC or PRIVATE Gardens?	Public Private Don't Know	75.60% 18.20% 6.20%
# Of hours to get from home to where Visiting Gardens/ Arboretums took place MOST?		Mean 1.4 Median 1.0
Bird Watching Away From Home	No Yes	94.50% 5.50%
# Of Days?		Mean 13.9 Median 5.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 2.1 Median 2.0
Bird Watching Away from Home MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	32.70% 67.30%
Bird Watching Away from Home at PUBLIC or PRIVATE places?	Public Private Don't Know	82.70% 6.90% 10.40%
# Of hours to get from home to where Bird Watching Away from Home took place MOST?		Mean 1.5 Median 1.0
Other	No Yes	97.20% 2.80%
# Of Days?		Mean 18.9 Median 10.0
# Of Persons?		Mean 1.7 Median 2.0
MOSTLY in Virginia?	No Yes	30.90% 69.10%
Other Places	Public Private Don't Know	73.10% 26.60% 0.30%
# Of hours to get from home to where OTHER activity took place MOST?		Mean 1.6 Median 1.0

Q9. Please indicate which of the following outdoor RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES, if any, you feel are MOST NEEDED in Virginia.		
Rank#1.	Public Access To State Waters For Boating, Fishing, Swimming, And Beach Use	50.20%
Rank#2	Trails For Hiking And Walking	49.00%
Rank#3	Access To Natural Areas	42.00%
Rank#4	Trails For Bicycling	39.70%
Rank#5	Playing Fields For Outdoor Sports Such As Softball, Baseball, Football, And Soccer	35.50%
Rank#6	Access To Historic Sites	33.30%
Rank#7	Outdoor Playing Courts For Tennis And Basketball	25.40%
Rank#8	Trails For Horseback Riding	15.60%
Rank#9	Other	9.40%
Q10. When you recreate outdoors, do you prefer developed parks with recreational facilities such as ball fields, campgrounds, picnic areas, and multi-use trails; or do you prefer natural areas...?	Developed Parks	39.10%
	Natural Areas	30.90%
	No Preference	30.00%
Q11. Although privately owned campgrounds may be available in the vicinity, should public campgrounds be developed in Virginia's state parks?	Yes	61.40%
	Don't Know	26.00%
	No	12.60%
Q12. Did you or any member of your household visit a Virginia STATE PARK in the past 12 months?	Yes	43.00%
	Don't Know	51.00%
	No	6.10%
Q12a. (If Yes) How many total times did your household visit Virginia STATE PARKS in the last 12 months?		Mean 6.8 Median 3.0
Q12b. Please list the names of all Virginia State Parks you and members of your household visited in the past 12 months.		
Q13. Which of the following do you and members of your household consider to be the top THREE reasons for having the Virginia system of state parks?		
Rank#1	Conserving Natural Resources	60.90%
Rank#2	Providing People Places To Explore And Enjoy Nature And Their Cultural Heritage	58.70%

Rank#3	Providing Places For Walking, Running, And Other Activities That Contribute To A Healthy Lifestyle	54.30%
Rank#4	Providing Large Natural Areas Which Offer Recreation Opportunities	39.50%
Rank#5	Learning About Nature, History, And The Outdoors	30.80%
Rank#6	Attracting Visitors To Rural Areas And Helping The Local Economy	16.30%
Rank#7	Providing Special Places For Quiet Contemplation	16.70%
Rank#8	Other	1.50%
Q14. Which, if any, of the following reasons prevented you or members of your household from using Virginia State Parks in the past year?		
Rank#1	Lack Of Information	30.50%
Rank#2	Too Far Away From Home/Household	19.50%
Rank#3	Other	20.80%
Rank#4	Lack Of Desired Activities	11.00%
Rank#5	Too Crowded	10.90%
Rank#6	Too Expensive	8.40%
Rank#7	Public Safety/Security Concerns	6.50%
Rank#8	Not Interested In State Parks	6.10%
Q15. If you or members of your household were to camp in a state park, what style/type of campsite would be most commonly preferred?		
	1. Campsite With Water/Electric Hookups	60.80%
	2. Campsite For TENT only	25.10%
	3. Backcountry Pack-in Campsites	4.00%
	4. Water-Access Campsites (Canoe-in, Boat-in)	9.20%
	Never Camped In State Parks (Not Included In Above Answers.)	43.00%
Q16. What style of lodging would you prefer in state parks?		
Rank#1	2-3 bedroom cabin	39.50%
Rank#2	Rustic one room cabin	19.40%
Rank#3	One bedroom cabin	21.00%

Rank#4	Hotel style room	13.30%
Rank#5	6 bedroom family lodge	4.90%
Rank#6	Other	1.90%
	No Preference (Not included in above answers)	26.80%
Q17. If staying overnight at a state park, how many nights would you most commonly stay?		Mean 2.5 Median 2.0
	Would Never Stay Overnight (Not included in answers to above question.)	16.80%
Q18. How important is it that Virginia state parks provide the following?		
1. Cabins	Not Important Important Very Important	23.80% 51.30% 24.90%
2. Camping Facilities	Not Important Important Very Important	13.60% 50.40% 36.00%
3. Boating/Fishing Water Access	Not Important Important Very Important	25.10% 49.30% 25.70%
4. Visitor Centers	Not Important Important Very Important	11.50% 53.90% 34.60%
5. Nature Programs	Not Important Important Very Important	15.50% 57.90% 26.60%
6. Cultural/Historic Programs	Not Important Important Very Important	18.50% 58.20% 23.20%
7. Educational Programs	Not Important Important Very Important	18.10% 54.70% 27.20%
8. Food Service	Not Important Important Very Important	38.50% 41.10% 20.40%

9. Boat/Canoe/Kayak Rentals	Not Important	25.00%
	Important	55.30%
	Very Important	19.70%
10. Gifts, Souvenirs, Camp Store	Not Important	49.50%
	Important	39.50%
	Very Important	10.90%
11. Swimming	Not Important	20.40%
	Important	54.70%
	Very Important	24.90%
12. Playgrounds	Not Important	18.70%
	Important	49.90%
	Very Important	31.40%
13. Hiking Trails	Not Important	6.10%
	Important	46.40%
	Very Important	48.10%
14. Bicycle Trails	Not Important	15.00%
	Important	52.40%
	Very Important	32.50%
15. Equestrian Trails	Not Important	48.60%
	Important	38.50%
	Very Important	12.90%
16. Multiple Use Trails	Not Important	18.40%
	Important	56.80%
	Very Important	24.90%
17. Hunting	Not Important	67.40%
	Important	22.10%
	Very Important	10.50%
18. Fishing	Not Important	25.50%
	Important	49.20%
	Very Important	25.30%
19. Hotel-Style Accommodation	Not Important	57.20%
	Important	29.00%
	Very Important	13.80%

20. Golf Courses	Not Important Important Very Important	74.00% 19.60% 6%
21. Other	Not Important Important Very Important	59.10% 19.70% 21.20%
Q19. Would you feel comfortable swimming at a state park lakefront or river swimming area if lifeguards were NOT on duty?	Yes No Don't Know	46.80% 39.40% 13.80%
Q20. ATTITUDES TOWARD STATE PARKS AS IMPORTANT "PLACES" (AGREEMENT/DISAGREEMENT WITH 12 STATEMENTS)		
1. Virginia state parks are very important places for us to participate in outdoor activities.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	2.00% 7.10% 56.70% 34.20%
2. We are very attached to one or more Virginia state parks.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	9.40% 40.50% 36.80% 13.20%
3. We associate special people in our lives with Virginia state parks.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	15.90% 51.70% 26.80% 5.60%
4. Most of the outdoor activities that we do are related to Virginia state parks.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	17.30% 54.80% 22.00% 5.90%
5. Doing what we do at Virginia state parks is more important to us than doing it any other place.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	18.20% 55.60% 21.80% 4.40%

6. It is very important to us that Virginia state parks exist.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	1.40% 3.80% 55.20% 39.70%
7. Virginia state parks are very special to us.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	4.00% 21.20% 52.00% 22.90%
8. Virginia state parks bring memories of time spent with friends.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	9.00% 32.40% 42.00% 16.60%
9. We wouldn't substitute the types of things we do at Virginia state parks for other locations.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	9.80% 51.30% 31.10% 7.90%
10. My family or friends regularly visit a particular Virginia state park.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	12.40% 45.70% 32.40% 9.60%
11. One particular Virginia state park means a lot to us.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	13.80% 46.20% 31.20% 8.90%
12. We get more satisfaction from going to Virginia state parks than any other places in the state.	Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree	15.90% 56.20% 22.80% 5.10%
Q21. In general, how ACCEPTABLE to you and other members of your household is it to charge additional fees for the following?		
1. Entrance/Parking	Not Acceptable Acceptable Very Acceptable	45.40% 47.80% 6.80%

	Not Acceptable	38.70%
	Acceptable	52.80%
2. Swimming Facilities	Very Acceptable	8.50%
	Not Acceptable	25.50%
	Acceptable	57.10%
3. Boat Launch	Very Acceptable	17.40%
	Not Acceptable	49.50%
	Acceptable	43.50%
4. Nature Programs	Very Acceptable	7.00%
	Not Acceptable	40.10%
	Acceptable	49.40%
5. Picnic Shelter Reservation	Very Acceptable	10.50%
	Not Acceptable	12.20%
	Acceptable	65.90%
6. Special Events	Very Acceptable	21.90%
	Not Acceptable	17.40%
	Acceptable	63.20%
7. Camping	Very Acceptable	19.50%
	Not Acceptable	8.60%
	Acceptable	59.00%
8. Cabins	Very Acceptable	32.40%
Q22. Should the state spend public funds to acquire land to prevent the loss of exceptional natural areas to development?	Yes	77.70%
	Don't Know	14.20%
	No	8.10%
	Very Important	67.40%
	Important	26.80%
Q23. How important do you and members of your household feel it is to protect Virginia's natural and openspace resources?	Don't Know	4.10%
	Not Important	1.70%
	Don't Know	47.60%
Q24. Do you and members of your household feel that Virginia's natural and open space resources are adequately protected?	No	30.70%
	Yes	21.70%
Q25. When spending public monies to protect Virginia's natural and openspace resources from development, which protection strategy do you and members of your household feel is the best?		

Rank#1	Outright Purchase From Willing Sellers Of The Property, And Then Management As Natural Area Or Park for Public Use	70.80%
Rank#2	Purchase Of Easements That Reduce Development Rights, But Leave The Land In Private Ownership, With Some Public Use Allowed.	23.90%
Rank#3	Purchase Of Easements That Reduce Development Rights, But Leave The Land In Private Ownership, With No Public Use	5.30%

2006 Virginia Outdoors Survey

Ranking of Outdoor Recreation Activities Based on Percent of Households Participating

2006		
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>% of pop.</u>
		<u>2006</u>
1	Walking for pleasure	72
2	Visiting historic sites	56
3	Driving for pleasure	55
4	Swimming	44
5	Visiting nat. areas, parks	44
6	Sunbathing on beach	36
7	Fishing	26
8	Picnicking	26
9	Using a playground	25
10	Boating	24
11	Jogging	24
12	Visiting gardens, arboretums	21
13	Bicycling	21
14	Camping	18
15	Hiking, backpacking	16
16	Golf	14
17	Basketball	12
18	Fitness trail	10
19	Soccer	9
20	Snow skiing, boarding	9
21	Tennis	8
22	Hunting	7